



# SOUTHEAST NEWS

October - November 2010

Southeast Elementary School, 134 Warrenville Rd., Mansfield Center, CT 06250 423-1611

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another fabulous year at Southeast Elementary School. This year our schoolwide theme is T.E.A.M. - *Together Everyone Achieves More.*



One of our continued district goals for this school year is to increase effective communication between parents, community and staff. There are several ways in which we can achieve this goal. The PTO will meet monthly (see dates on pg. 5). Parents' Hour will also meet throughout the year for the purpose of presenting curriculum information, schoolwide programs, and to address many of the interesting topics submitted by parents and staff. This month's Parents' Hour presentation will be about the Enrichment Program. Our Enrichment Team which is comprised of parents and teachers will meet monthly to review innovative schoolwide enrichment activities and several new ways to enhance our school. Please feel free to join our team and share your ideas.

As always, we welcome your input and involvement within our school and programs.

Norma Fisher-Doiron  
Principal

## Wednesday, October 13th is School Picture Day

Individual and class pictures will be taken on the same day. Photo envelopes are being sent home with your child today.

You may also order online before picture day at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)



## PICKING CHILDREN UP FROM SCHOOL





Please remember to send a written note in with your child if you will need to pick him/her up from school early or unscheduled at the end of the day. A separate note for each child's teacher is preferred. This will eliminate any confusion at dismissal time and assure your child's safety.

Phone calls, e-mails and/or faxes cause interruptions of the classroom and are not reliable or acceptable ways to notify the teacher or the office.

*Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.*

## Calendar of Events

### OCTOBER

- Oct. 4..... 6:00 PM- Parents' Hour (see article on pg. 2)  
7:00 PM- PTO Meeting
- Oct. 5..... Fire Prevention Day 
- Oct. 6..... 11:30 AM- Character Education Assembly
- Oct. 8..... 6:30 PM- PTO Ice Cream Social
- Oct. 11..... **NO SCHOOL** - Columbus Day 
- Oct. 12..... **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Development Day
- Oct. 13..... School Picture Day  
1st Grade Field Trip to Buell's Orchard 
- Oct. 14..... 7:30 PM- Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 15..... 2nd Grade Field Trip to Sturbridge Village  
4th Grade Field Trip to Pequot Museum
- Oct. 16..... 6:30-9:00 PM- PTO Live Auction (see article on pg. 5)
- Oct. 20..... 3rd Grade Field Trip to Mansfield Library
- Oct. 21..... 7:30 PM- Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 25..... Trestle Tree begins (see article on pg. 2)
- Oct. 31..... Halloween 

### NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1..... 7:00 PM- PTO Meeting
- Nov. 2..... Election Day
- Nov. 7..... Daylight Savings Time Ends- fall back 1 hour
- Nov. 11..... **NO SCHOOL** - Veteran's Day
- Nov. 12..... **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Development Day
- Nov. 15..... Mobile Dentist (see article pg. 3) 
- Nov. 18..... 7:30 PM- Board of Education Meeting
- Nov. 19..... Progress Reports go home
- Nov. 22..... 12:45 PM- Early Dismissal  
2:00-5:00 PM- Parent/Teacher conferences (by appt.) 
- Nov. 23..... 12:45 PM- Early Dismissal  
6:00-8:00 PM- Parent/Teacher conferences (by appt.)
- Nov. 24..... 10:30 AM- Turkey Trot  
12:45 PM- Early Dismissal
- Nov. 25 & 26.... **NO SCHOOL** - Thanksgiving Holiday 

Attendance Line/Nurse: 423-2793 Please call by 9:00 AM if your child will be absent or tardy

Please visit our website [www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast](http://www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast)

## PARENTS' HOUR



**Monday**  
**October 4, 2010**  
**6:00 - 7:00 P.M.**



**in Enrichment Room (22)**

Would you like to know more about  
Southeast School's Enrichment Program?

All parents are invited to a Parent Information Meeting

### Topics covered include:

- The Schoolwide Enrichment Model
- Identification procedures for pull-out program
- Enrichment opportunities for students

## PTO MEETING

**7:00 - 8:00 P.M.**

*(Immediately following the Parents' Hour)*

**Chair of the Board of Education, Mark LaPlaca,**  
**will talk about the Four Schools Building Project.**

Free babysitting will be available in the Art Room.  
Refreshments will be served: Pizza & Juice  
(please call 423-1611 if you need childcare)

## Learning Basic Math Facts

Many children struggle with learning basic facts. Teachers spend a great deal of time helping students develop number sense. This in turn helps students to invent, share, and refine strategies in the classroom. Basic facts are useful in estimation and mental math. For example, students can use their knowledge of  $8 \times 4 = 32$  to know that a reasonable estimate for  $84 \times 41$  is  $80 \times 40 = 320$ .



So what can you do as parents? Help your child by practicing their basic facts. First, set a reasonable goal. "Let's see if we can learn all the +1 facts for the numbers 0 - 9 in one week." Then spend about 10 minutes 4 times a week helping your child practice the facts. Make flashcards or play a game that helps them learn their facts. Ask them to explain their thinking.

We need your help if they are to know their facts with automaticity. Be patient and remember that it takes a village to raise a child.

*~Karen Moylan, Math Consultant*



## LOST & FOUND

Please ask your child to look through the Lost & Found box located in the Art's Wing. Writing your child's name inside jackets, lunch boxes, backpacks, etc. will help us return found items to their owners. Small items such as money or jewelry are held at the office for a short amount of time.

## The Trestle Tree is Coming to Southeast School's Physical Education Program! Oct. 25th to Dec. 23rd

A program unique to Mansfield Public Schools, the Trestle Tree satisfies the differentiated needs of all children. Beginning with low heights and simple activities in Preschool and Kindergarten, the Trestle Tree progressively gets higher and more challenging as children get older and more skilled. Activities on the Trestle Tree include creative movement, problem solving initiatives, movement exploration games, gymnastic skills, strength building, climbing and landing techniques, and cooperation. The Trestle Tree, which consists of many components, is creatively assembled in various forms resembling a cross between gymnastic apparatus and an indoor playscape. The components of the Trestle Tree include trestles, balance beams, bridges, ladders, bars, nets, slides, mats, and ropes.

We are looking forward to the challenges presented by the Trestle Tree!

## Join Southeast School's E-Mail and Text Messaging



Southeast Elementary School uses the QNotify Messaging Service to enhance communication with families via **e-mail** and cell phone or pager **text messaging**. You can sign-up to receive free notices from Southeast Elementary School informing you of announcements about school events and groups.

This service is free of charge and signing-up is fast and easy. You can enter e-mail addresses and/or cellular devices. You choose which addresses receive only emergency or priority notifications and which addresses receive all notifications. There is no cost to sign-up for this service (your phone provider's normal text messaging charges will apply if you sign-up your cellular device). Your contact information will never be sold or distributed, and there is no advertising attached to this service.

### We encourage you to sign up for this service.

We think that it will help us to communicate  
with you more effectively.

**To sign up log on to our website:**  
**[www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast](http://www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast)**  
**and click on QNotify**

Thank you for your participation!

**\*This service DOES NOT announce school closings  
(example: snow days) or delayed openings.**

**\*This service DOES announce emergency early closings.**

## Snack Time

Please don't forget to pack a snack for your child. Snack time is part of most classroom routines.

Children are encouraged to bring healthful snacks such as fruit, vegetables, juice, etc. in non-breakable containers. Snacks are not supplied by the teachers or the school.



## **"Shine Your Smile Day" is Coming!**



We have invited Mobile Dentists/Smile Programs to bring it's on-site preventative dental services to our school district in November because we know how important good oral health is to our children's overall general health.

A mini-dental office will be set up (at a location yet to be determined) and can provide *dental examinations, cleanings, fluoride treatments, x-rays and sealants (if necessary)* for children.

The Mobile Dentist/Smile Programs can provide these services to families who need financial assistance and it has *subsidized fees* for those who choose to pay for the preventative care. No child is ever turned away from the program because of financial need.

Permission forms will be sent home at a later date.

Learn more about this program by visiting its website: [www.mobiledentists.com](http://www.mobiledentists.com) or contact Vicki Daniels, School Nurse



## Health and Safety Issue:

Please see the following regarding roaming and unleashed dogs.

The general statutes do not mandate that dogs be on leashes at all times. But (1) a dog's owner or keeper must not allow it to roam on another person's land or on a public highway, including sidewalks, if it is not under his control and (2) local governments may create leash ordinances. Violating the state roaming law is an infraction punishable by a fine of \$92. (CGS § 22-364). Additionally, the Environmental Protection Department requires that owners keep their dogs leashed in state parks.

*(OLR Research Report, Joseph Holstead, March 16, 2004)*

## Unsupervised Animals on School Property

If you observe an unleashed or unsupervised animal on any school property either notify the owner, the Mansfield Animal Control Officer at 487-0317 or school officials at the Mansfield Board of Education at 429-3350.

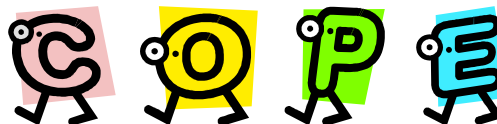
Thank you for your assistance.

## **Notes to Teachers**



When sending notes to teachers for parent pick-up, etc. please make sure that the paper you write the note on is large enough to be found by the teacher. Tiny scraps of paper are often overlooked or get lost.

For your convenience, we've put a generic form on our website. You may find it handy to use.



## **For Children Learning to COPE with Loss, Divorce, & Other Stressful Changes**

Has your child experienced a loss, divorce, or other stressful change to his/her family structure? Could he/she gain from a positive experience in the school-setting with other children who have had similar experiences?

If the answer is yes, we would like to invite your child to participate in COPE at your child's school.

### **What is COPE?**

Cope is a skill-building program, which has been available and successful to students of our community for over 20 years. During our once-a-week meetings, your child will join us during regularly scheduled lunch-time throughout the school year.

- COPE fosters a supportive environment where your child will have fun and at the same time learn new coping skills.
- COPE offers your child a chance to make new friends.
- COPE will help your child understand there are many types of families.
- More importantly, COPE is about helping your child build self esteem and positive communication skills.

If you are interested in having your child participate, please pick up a permission form from the school office. COPE will begin on October 4th.

If you would like more information about COPE, please contact: Kathy McNamara, MSW at Mansfield Youth Services 429-3318

## **Biomes Center Aquarium at Southeast**

Starting October 13, the UConn interns and Southeast School will be hosting the Biomes Center aquarium in the Enrichment classroom. The aquarium will be at Southeast until Nov. 10th. Each week the sea life will change and every class will have the opportunity to visit and participate in hands-on interactions with the new creatures. Some of the creatures that will be visiting Southeast are:

- Week 1: Echinoderms- Sea Star, Sea Urchin, Sea Cucumber
- Week 2: Crustaceans- Spider Crab, Barnacle, Shore Shrimp
- Week 3: Mollusks- Periwinkle, Oyster, Quahog
- Week 4: Fish- Striped Minnow, Puffer Fish, Flounder



We are very excited to begin this exploration!

~Miss Francisco, Miss Sunderland, Miss Veilleux and Miss Voloshin

**Alex's Lemonade Stand**  
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER



Thank you to all the families who helped make this year's Alex's Lemonade Stand another success. We raised almost \$175.00!

It was heartwarming to see the children and parents manage the stand at the Fall Carnival and all the donations were greatly appreciated!



## Stories for Southeast

### The Gift That Keeps on Giving

Books may be dedicated to your child in honor of his/her birthday, a thank you to someone special, in memory of a loved one, congratulations, or any occasion.

We would like to thank the individuals below for their purchase of the following books for our school library:

Horace and Morris Say Cheese... For Mr. Dieter... Congratulations on your retirement. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Southeast School.. From, The Southeast PTO

Miss Smith and the Haunted Library ...For Dr. Armstrong.... Congratulations on your retirement. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Southeast School.. From, The Southeast PTO

Faces of the Moon... In appreciation of the parents of the Moving On Students in Mrs. Sangree's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to Southeast Elementary School... From, the Southeast PTO

Alvin Ho ... In appreciation of the parents of the Moving On Students in Mr. Warinsky's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to Southeast Elementary School... From, the Southeast PTO

Enter the Secret World of Insects... In appreciation of the parents of the Moving On Students in Mrs. Villar's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to Southeast Elementary School... From, the Southeast PTO

The Spiderwick Chronicles, Lucinda's Secret.... This book is dedicated to the memory of Richard Rameaka, a lover of books.... From, Norma Fisher-Doiron

The Runaway Mummy... This book is dedicated to the memory of Richard Rameaka, a lover of books.... From, Norma Fisher-Doiron

Aesop's Fables ... Dedicated to Maureen Gagne and Sarah Fraser who provide healthy meals every day to the students and staff of Southeast School... From, The Southeast Staff

Sergio Saves the Game! ...Dedicated to the entire office staff at Southeast School who are constantly "Saving the Day!" ... From, The Southeast Staff

Ace Lacewing Bug Detective... Dedicated to Bill Bradley and Angel Ortiz, Southeast School's "Ace" Custodians... From, The Southeast Staff

Harry Houdini... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

Amelia Earhart ... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

Anne Frank ... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

The Story of King Arthur and His Knights ... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

Call of the Wild ... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

The Time Machine ... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

The Swiss Family Robinson... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

Juan Ponce de Leon... Donated in honor of Jamie Hendricks to the Southeast Library

If you are interested in purchasing a book for our library, please contact Suzanne Kelly at 423-6071 for more information.

## Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Bucks Program



Southeast School has the opportunity to earn cash through Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Bucks Program.

All you have to do is:

Log on to [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) to register online,

OR

Call 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone.

Our school's code number is **06546**

**(this code # was incorrect on the recent flier that was sent home)**

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop & Shop Card earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs. Attending to this simple process make a Huge difference to our school.

## From the Green Thumbs Club

The Green Thumbs Club is collecting the following items for recycling:

- old cell phones,
- rechargeable batteries,
- old DVDs, CDs, and videotapes,
- used toner and inkjet cartridges from your home or office, and wallpaper remnants and old calendars.



Nike is no longer accepting old athletic footwear, so we are not able to recycle the footwear at this time. Also, we only recycle rechargeable batteries. Regular batteries can now be put in the trash.

A collection center for all of these items is located in the hallway by Mrs. Irvine's room (#22).



## Wanted

The Green Thumbs Club will reuse plant trays and pots for its annual plant sale. These items may be left outside by the greenhouse door.

## Leaving A Child Unsupervised in a Place of Public Accommodation



The Department of Children and Families would like to remind you that these actions are criminal violations and referred to local police:

- Knowingly leaving a child unsupervised under age 12 in a place of public accommodation or motor vehicle for a period of time that presents substantial risk- class A misdemeanor; or
- Leaves the child unsupervised in a place of public accommodation that sells alcohol for consumption on premises- class D felony; or
- Leaves the child unsupervised in a place of public accommodation or a motor vehicle between 8 PM and 6 AM for a period of time- class C felony.





## PTO Corner:

### PTO Officers 2010-2011

President.....Julie Brown  
 Vice-president .....Andrea Lennon  
 Secretary.....Mike Kelly  
 Treasurer .....Kimberly Clark

### **You're Invited to Our Ice Cream Social Meet & Greet**



**Friday, October 8th  
6:30-8:00 pm  
in the Gym**

This is a chance to meet families that are new to Southeast this year, as well as reunite with old friends.

**The Shady Glen ice cream is free!**

Volunteers needed to help set up, scoop & clean up!

If you can help, please call Tia Willour at 948-0151

or email her at [tia.willour@gmail.com](mailto:tia.willour@gmail.com)



### **COME TO THE AUCTION Saturday, Oct. 16th 6:00 - 9:00 PM**

The PTO will be holding a Live Auction at the Sports Bar in North Windham, 157 Boston Post Rd. (next to Villari's Martial Arts). Auctioneer, Ernest Eldredge will be auctioning off some fabulous items, including hot air balloon rides, a kayak, classroom baskets, kids baskets, a chocolate lovers theme basket, holiday theme baskets, kids and adult bicycles as well as tickets to the theater, sporting events, comedy clubs and museums.

Tickets are \$10 in advance (available in the school office) or you can purchase them at the door, \$15 for one and \$25 for two. Tickets include appetizers, food on the grill, and live music. There will be a cash bar.

Preview, Silent Auction, Food and Entertainment start at 6:00 p.m. and the Live Auction starts at 7:30 p.m. There will be great bargains, so get a babysitter and come on down!

### **FALL CARNIVAL THANK YOU!**



Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the Fall Carnival such a success! A special thank you to Angel Ortiz for all of his help throughout the event.

We couldn't have done it without all of your help.

## **Notes from the Health Room**



### October is Family Health Month

Healthy families all have one thing in common: they talk. **Families need to communicate.**

Many families are too busy to talk about health issues and concerns until there is a problem with a family member or there is a major illness. Communication is key to early detection and prevention for illness and injury. Communication is important for many reasons. Too many people think that the only time to discuss something is when there is a problem, so they don't work at daily conversations about general life. If conversation is part of family life, it becomes easy and while it may still be tough to talk about some things, it won't be impossible. Take time to talk to your family members and your family physician about your health and your family's health.

### **The HUSKY Plan**

offers a full health insurance package for children and teenagers up to age 19, regardless of family income. HUSKY pays for doctor visits, prescriptions, vision and dental care, and much more.



HUSKY Plus offers additional services for children with special physical health care needs, while mental health and substance abuse treatment services are available through the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership.

When your child is enrolled in HUSKY, you'll choose doctors and other medical providers participating in one of our health care options. For most families, HUSKY is low-cost or free. But even families with high incomes can get HUSKY health care for children at a group rate.

HUSKY is now serving over 241,000 children and teens in Connecticut's working families-- keeping kids healthy and helping the family budget. HUSKY also provides health coverage for parents, relative caregivers and pregnant women, depending on income.

Getting further information about HUSKY is easy. Just call their toll-free number, 1-877-CT-HUSKY (1-877-284-8759) or go to their website: [www.huskyhealth.com](http://www.huskyhealth.com)



### **Substitute Nurses Needed**

Please contact Student Support Services at 429-3353 for more information.

### **WE NEED YOU**

The Southeast Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) serves the school in many capacities. If you have a child enrolled at Southeast Elementary School, you are automatically a member of the Southeast PTO. Please consider attending our meetings, which are normally held on the first Monday of every month. Agendas and minutes are sent home in your child's mail. If you decide to attend a meeting, child care is available by contacting the school office before the meeting.

**PTO meeting dates are:** Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, Mar. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, June 7. All meetings are 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

